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A TEMPEST IN GENEVA.

LETTER FROM T. ADOLPHUS TROLLOPE.

A MIST LIKE A MAGNIFYING LENS—THE ATMOSPHERE IN FLAMES—INCREDIBLE FORCE OF THE STORM—ENORMOUS HAILSTONES—A GREAT CALAMITY.

[FROM AN OCCASIONAL CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE.]

GENEVA, July 10.—A great calamity has happened to this ordinarily gay-looking and thriving city, which has recently become one of the favorite halting-places for American tourists during the Summer months, and as it is probable that some appeal for assistance may be made to America, as well as to England—the two giving countries *par excellence*—it may not be amiss that I should give you some account of the disaster. About midnight following Wednesday, the 7th of this month, a storm broke over the City of Geneva. There does not seem to be very much in that announcement. But this was a storm *comme il y en a peu*, fortunately—a storm such as no man in this country remembers to have ever seen the like of, and which really appears to have been one of the most remarkable manifestations of the fury of the elements on record. The previous day had been very hot, heavy, and sultry, with a heat that all who felt it declared to be especially and unusually enervating. Nor did the setting of the sun bring any relief with it. The sky was serene and star-lit, and the heat, even after the sun had gone down, continued insupportable. Persons learned in mountain weather wisdom, however, had watched the signs of the time with some misgiving. The atmosphere was by no means clear, being filled with a heavy, motionless mist. And yet the great, ghostlike shapes of the mountains were not only visible, but seemed to be so near that people said: "It seems as if you could touch them by stretching out the hand!" This is a phenomenon known as the forerunner of bad weather in this Alpine land; but rarely has it been seen in such perfection as was the case on the evening of the 7th. There must have been some special quality, as regards the transmission of light, about the component parts of that mist! It seemed as if it acted with the power of a magnifying lens, so perfectly were all the details of the outlines of the mountains perceptible. About 8 o'clock a few heavy drops of rain began to fall. And at the same time the whole circumference of the horizon began to be fitfully illuminated by flashes of sheet lightning. But there was no thunder. Once only during the entire night was there one terrific clap of thunder, and that was when the storm was just over;—a terrible sort of announcement that the work of the tempest was done! The lightning gradually increased in intensity, and lost its character of fitfulness. It became, indeed, actually and without exaggeration, continuous. The entire atmosphere seemed to be an element of flame. The city and every object in it was enveloped in the flashing light. And all this time there was not the slightest movement of the air in the streets. At about 11 o'clock it was observed that any small objects which happened to be lying on the roofs of the houses began to feel the wind. They were caught up and whirled around as by a cyclone. And still there was no movement of air in the streets below. And this continued till as nearly as possible midnight. By that hour all Geneva, a population of early habits, has gone to bed. But on the night of the 7th of July, they did not remain there long. At midnight the tempest came. It came mainly from the Jura range and from the south-west, traveling in that direction toward the basin of Lake Leman. It seemed, and the accuracy of the observation has since been verified, that the path of the storm, as it came up the valley of the Rhone toward Geneva, was very narrow in extent. But as it neared the Lake it seemed to spread out into a fan-like form, with a front sufficiently wide to embrace the entire city.

Few of the citizens of Geneva will forget the ten minutes which followed that midnight. It did not last much longer than ten minutes—from that to a quarter of an hour—but what a ten minutes it was! The "*Mauvais quart d'heure*" of Rabelais with a vengeance! At the end of it the City of Geneva was wrecked as no army of besiegers could have wrecked it in the same space of time. It came with the suddenness of a thunderclap. Only for a few minutes previously there had been a warning voice, which those who heard it describe to have been a very terrible one—which was not the sound of the wind even when it blows its hardest; which was not the sound of thunder, but a kind of strange, hollow, angry growl, with an ever *crescendo* force. Then just on the stroke of 12 came the bodily presence of the storm itself. It came in the shape hardly of a hail storm, in the ordinary acceptation of the word, but in that of an almost compact mass or sheet of ice, driven horizontally before the tempest blast. In the first instant, every gas-lamp in the streets of Geneva, save here and there one capriciously spared by reason of some protecting roof, was smashed to atoms and extinguished. But the city was not in darkness. For the masses of coagulated hail, which already were lying on the pavement of the streets, reflected the blue light of the lightning in a ghastly and ominous manner. Geneva is a city which displays an especially large extent of window-glass. The delicate processes of its manufactories of watchwork and jewelry need abundant light; and most of the large factories display almost as much glass as wall. They are mostly, too, at the tops of the houses, and thus more completely exposed to the fury of the storm. At the first blast of the tempest the whole of these throughout the city were smashed into myriads of fragments. Geneva is especially also a city of skylights, and these, it is hardly necessary to say, were as though they had never been! The windows of dwelling houses were forced from their fastenings, besides having all the glass shivered; and bedrooms, and staircases and saloons were thus thrown open to the storm, and in a minute or two half-filled with masses of ice, far beyond the immediate power of the inhabitants to remove. For the storm was marked by this peculiarity, that the hail-stones, or ice fragments rather, compacted themselves into one solid mass as soon as they fell. Accurate inquiry enables me to state without fear of exaggeration that the greater part of the hail-stones before they fell were about the size of chestnuts or walnuts; a smaller quantity was no larger than hazel-nuts; and large numbers were as big as the largest sized fowls' eggs. One was picked up at midday on the following day, and found to weigh two pounds.

These statements may make some of the effects of the storm to be recorded appear more credible than might otherwise be the case. The windows of the building containing the collection of pictures, called the "Musée Rath," were smashed—that of course!—but the hail after traversing them pierced holes through the canvas of some of the pictures, as if it had received shots from rifle-bullets. A noble picture by Domenichino, the "Triumph of David," was thus injured, as was also a picture called the "Handeck," by Calame. Many other pictures were similarly maltreated, and will remain curious memorials of the storm of 1875. There were, however, instances of the almost incredible force of the tempest blast, even more wonderful than these. On a slope of the left bank of the river Arve, in a suburb of the city, the tiles of many houses were absolutely beaten to powder; and more wonderful still, stout partitions of wooden plank were pierced by holes such as might have been made by a musket ball!

As for the consternation which reigned throughout the city, when the people sprang from their beds at the alarm of such an awakening, it may be fancied, and the scenes which occurred may be more easily imagined than described. There has been, fortunately, very little loss of human life. Three persons were killed by the fall of a farm-house in the immediate vicinity of the city; but I do not hear of any other well-authenticated cases. Vast quantities of small birds have been picked up, having been killed by the storm, and the bodies of several foxes have been found; oddly enough, for one would have imagined that the dwellings inhabited by them were among the safest in such weather. Could it have been that they were tempted out in search of the bodies of the small birds which strewed the ground?

Bad, however, as matters have been in the city, that is the least part of the misfortune. The worst is in the immediate environs of the city. Geneva is surrounded by pleasure gardens and vineyards and market gardens. And these have been destroyed as if a charge of cavalry had passed over them! Here the damage done involves the ruin and despair of the poor and industrious peasants, who have invested the persevering labor of years in the soil, and whose all is now taken from them as effectually as if it had been sunk under the bottom of the sea. They are an active, energetic, and industrious race, these Genevese, and are not at all disposed to sit down with their hands by their sides and weep over their losses. They are doing their utmost to repair the damage, and they have just been showing themselves very generous toward the sufferers by the inundations in the south of France; so that, should any appeal for help be made on your side of the water, I think it will be felt that a little assistance—much would not be wanted—would not be misplaced in helping pretty Geneva over the stile!

T. ADOLPHUS TROLLOPE.

FREAKS OF LIGHTNING IN ITALY.

Correspondence of The London Echo.

ROME, July 12.—Padre Secchi publishes an account of the singular phenomenon which occurred at Velletri during the violent thunderstorm of June 28, and which is to be ranked among the hitherto unexplained caprices of nature. Just as the tempest was at its hight, and the rain torrential, six persons taking shelter in a stable, which was also occupied by three horses harnessed to as many wine-carts, witnessed the following extraordinary appearance: A luminous mass rose from the threshold of the door, entered the stable, glided from one cart to another, attracted, probably, by those fringes of bells characteristic of the Roman wine-carts, and then passed through an iron grating into the street. The bells rang, the horses plunged, a woman and a man felt a certain giddiness of head; but no accident happened. Outside the stable, a carpenter at his shop-door saw the luminous mass (which some of the witnesses compared to a fiery club as thick as a man's arm) issue from the grating, strike the pavement, and disappear in a dazzling flash. However, the meteor visited several portions of the large house with which the stable was connected, flew through large chambers, blackening slightly a gilt cornice in one, and scattering fragments of plaster in another. Strangest of all, this extraordinary visitor, after completely destroying the new ceiling of a room leading into a vast kitchen, danced round a woman who was standing at a table. She described the meteor as a fiery serpent, which she first saw standing upright on the floor, within two meters' distance of her. Then it flew toward her, whirling several times round her knees with great velocity. She felt a sudden blow on the head and fell to the ground; but her husband, who saw the whole apparition, on rushing to what he supposed was the corpse of his lightning-destroyed wife, found that she was only stunned a little. On recovering she complained of pain in the scalp, and her hair had become, and remains, dry and rigid. After this last caprice the meteor disappeared, and from the quantity of soot which fell from the chimney, it is supposed to have found vent in that direction. It was accompanied by a loud detonation, but whether on its first appearance, or when it vanished, none can say. These details are gathered from a letter written to Padre Secchi from the Meteorological Observatory at Velletri, and published in the *Voce della Verità* of July 9. After this, one may believe that Tanaquil really did see a "lambent flame" play round the head of Servius Tullius in his cradle; nor can the tale of the stars playing on the River Moldau at Prague over the body of St. Jean Nepomuc be so certainly set down as a pious fancy of the Middle Ages, unsupported by natural phenomena.

THE YELLOW FEVER.

THE SITUATION AT BARRANCAS SERIOUS.

WASHINGTON, July 26.—The Secretary of the Navy received the following dispatches to-day in reference to the yellow fever in Florida:

NAVY-YARD, PENSACOLA, July 26.

Keep strangers away from here. The fever is raging at Barrancas. There are 65 cases, and have been 7 deaths.

G. H. COOPER, Commandant.

NAVY-YARD, PENSACOLA, July 26.

A strict quarantine is kept on Fort Barrancas, and no communication is allowed therefrom except through our quarantine. The wife of the officer commanding the post is sick. The officer's duties in providing for the care of the sick are arduous. The fever is of a very malignant type. The ladies and children at the post are nearly all down with it. Please inform the Secretary of War.

G. H. COOPER, Commandant.

A WORTHLESS QUARANTINE AT PENSACOLA.

The City of Pensacola, from its proximity to Havana and the absence of an effectual quarantine, seems to have suffered more from yellow-fever epidemics within the past few years than any other port either on our Atlantic or Gulf coast. For three years in succession, and at about the same date, the yellow fever has broken out there. The disease there now is of a very malignant type. The yellow fever was carried to Pensacola in 1873 by the British merchant ship Golden Dream, which arrived from Havana on the 10th of June. As she had the yellow fever on board she was quarantined for 23 days, but was then allowed to go up to the city, where she deposited some of her ballast on a wharf. From this, and from visits made to her at Quarantine, the disease was communicated, and between the 2d of August and the 19th of November from 60 to 70 deaths occurred. The first case that appeared at the Post Hospital at Fort Barrancas in 1873 occurred on Sept. 23, when it was introduced by means of a barrel of potatoes brought from New-Orleans.

In 1874 the yellow fever was carried to Pensacola by the Spanish bark Virtuoso, which arrived from Havana May 27, but it did not become epidemic until August, when it was carried to the city by negroes who had been working at Quarantine. The total number of cases in the city last season, exclusive of those in the Marine Hospital at Fort Barrancas and at the Navy-Yard, was 225, with 55 deaths. In the Marine Hospital there were 51 yellow fever patients with 10 deaths. Dr. Herron, in closing his report on the epidemic of last year, says: "Yellow fever was introduced here by vessels from Cuba, and was propagated and disseminated by a worthless quarantine and the sailors' boarding-houses."

THE WINTHROP BANK ROBBERY.

THE ARRAIGNMENT OF THE SUSPECTED BURGLARS POSTPONED—THE DETENTION OF ONE OF THEM REQUESTED BY THE NEW-YORK POLICE.

AUGUSTA, Me., July 26.—The arraignment of Lewis, Levi, and Clark, the suspected Winthrop Bank robbers, has been postponed until to-morrow, on account of expected additional evidence. The three men, when arrested, affirmed that they were on their way to Montreal on a tour of pleasure, gave their names as Thomas H. Clark, Geo. B. Levi, and Louis Lewis, and said that they were from New-York. Mr. Bailey, the President of the National Bank, telegraphed to New-York to ascertain if anything could be learned of the men at the houses named by them as their places of residence. It is said the reply from New-York is not satisfactory as to the men and their places of residence. A telegram from New-York requests the detention of Lewis until further advices are received.

A LECTURE ON THE PRIESTHOOD BY FATHER GERDEMANN.

PHILADELPHIA, July 26.—Ex-Priest Gerdemann will lecture on "Ten Years in the Priesthood" at Horticultural Hall on Wednesday night, and the National Protestant Alliance will attend in a body, in pursuance of a resolution recently passed by them. The following is the resolution:

Resolved, That we attend his [Father Gerdemann's] lecture in a body, that he may feel that he is surrounded by friends and fellow-citizens who, with all other lovers of liberty, peace, law and order, will give him every opportunity to speak in his own vindication.

Trouble is feared on the occasion of the lecture. Daniel Tree, a leader in the late attack on Mr. Gerdemann, was held in $2,000 bail to-day, to answer the charge of inciting a riot.

THE INDIANAPOLIS SENTINEL IN NEW HANDS.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., July 26.—*The Sentinel* of this city has been sold to the Hon. John C. Shoemaker of this place. The editorial and business control will be placed in the hands of Lucien G. Matthews, for many years connected with the press in Indiana and Kentucky. It is understood, from the antecedents of the present staff of the paper, that it will be thoroughly and consistently Democratic. The paper will make its first appearance under the new management on Wednesday next.

THE SUICIDE OF A NEW-HAVEN CLERK.

NEW-HAVEN, Conn., July 26.—Charles J. Mousell, a young clerk in a dry goods store in this city, shot himself through the heart to-day, dying very soon after. This morning his employer detected him putting in his own pocket money received by him as salesman. He was at once discharged. His large expenses and high living for some time past had roused his employer's suspicions. Mortification at being discovered was undoubtedly the cause of the suicide.

GENERAL FOREIGN NEWS.

THE SEAMEN'S CAUSE.

MR. PLIMSOLL SUSTAINED BY THE PEOPLE—INDIGNATION AT THE WITHDRAWAL OF THE SHIPPING BILL—THE GOVERNMENT TO INTRODUCE A NEW MEASURE AND ALLOW MR. PLIMSOLL'S BILL TO PASS.

LONDON, Monday, July 26, 1875.

In the House of Commons to-day various notices of motions and questions were given, all reflecting the depth of public indignation at the Government's withdrawal of the Shipping bill. On motion of Mr. Roebuck, Thursday next was assigned for the second reading of Mr. Plimsoll's Shipping bill. This measure the latter had abandoned in favor of the Government bill.

Sir Charles Adderley, President of the Board of Trade, will introduce on Wednesday a bill further empowering the Board of Trade to prevent unseaworthy ships from sailing. This is regarded as a Government concession to and triumph for Mr. Plimsoll.

The Earl of Shaftesbury has written a letter to Mr. Plimsoll earnestly sympathizing with him in his efforts to better the condition of seamen and advising him to appear in the House and adhere to the views he expressed, but to signify his regret that excitement led him to violate the rules of debate.

A majority of the prominent daily and weekly journals express a similar view.

The Times understands that Mr. Plimsoll has procured the revival of the Shipping bill, which he previously abandoned in favor of the Government measure, and that it will now be placed on the order book for Thursday. Mr. Plimsoll will then apologize to the House and consent to the passage of the bill as a provisional measure for one year only.

THE INSURRECTION IN THE HERZEGOVINA.

SEVERE ENGAGEMENT AT NEVESIGNA—THE TURKS BEATEN NEAR DABRA—GORITZA FIRED.

RAGUSA, Monday, July 26, 1875.

The Herzegovina insurgents were attacked by the Turkish troops on Friday last, near Nevesigna, and a severe engagement took place. Many persons were killed and wounded on both sides. The dispatch reporting the battle fails to convey any result. On Saturday the Turks made a sortie from Stolatz, and attacked the insurgents near Dabra. Four companies made an unsuccessful effort to flank the insurgents. The fighting lasted all day. The result is not known. The Turks have fired Goritza.

THE CAUSE AND PROGRESS OF THE INSURRECTION.

The Herzegovina, where an insurrection is in progress, is the westernmost province of European Turkey, and has an area of 7,000 square miles. It adjoins the Austrian frontier. The population numbers about 200,000, half of whom are Mohammedans, the rest being Christians of the Latin or Greek churches. The people are chiefly of the Slavic race, and speak the Slavic dialect. The province is covered by a branch of the Dinaric Alps, and traversed by the Marenta and its tributaries, which flow into the Adriatic. The principal product is tobacco of very fine quality. The most notable manufactures are hydromel or mead, a favorite popular beverage, and sword blades. The province was first conquered by the Turks in 1466, and they were confirmed in its possession by the Treaty of Carlovitz in 1699. This insurrection first acquired importance about the 12th inst., when five villages raised Austrian flags and refused to pay Turkish taxes. Commissioners were sent to restore order by the Turkish Government, but their efforts were fruitless, and they advised the employment of armed force. When the Austrian Government learned of the disturbances it sent the gunboat Kerka up the Haventa with two companies of infantry, while a similar force was sent from Ragusa by land. The cause of the trouble is the bad feeling which exists between the Christians and the Turkish Government. Agrarian quarrels with the Dalmatians have also had something to do with the matter. The insurgents are said to have excellent muskets. The south Slavonian papers announced about the 6th inst., that the first encounter between the Christian inhabitants and the Turkish troops took place in the village of Dracevo, near the Austrian frontier. There being about 12,000,000 of Christians in the Turkish Empire, it is felt that this insurrection may intensify religious hate and lead to grave complications.

THE SPANISH CIVIL WAR.

THE CARLISTS IN CATALONIA SUBMITTING.

MADRID, Monday, July 26, 1875.

The Carlists in Catalonia continue to give in their submission to the Government. Eight hundred additional submissions have been recorded.

SANTANDER, Monday, July 26, 1875.

The military situation being considered satisfactory, Gen. Jovellar is about to return to Madrid.

DISTRESS IN PORTUGAL.

THE PROVINCES OF MINHO AND ALGARVE SUFFERING FROM DROUTH.

LONDON, Monday, July 26, 1875.

A special dispatch from Lisbon to *The Daily News* reports that the drouth in several districts of the Province of Minho has destroyed the crops and pastures. Famine is threatened, and riots against grain exporters are imminent. The cattle are dying of hunger. The local authorities report that it will be impossible to collect taxes in many places; an attempt to do so they fear would cause an insurrection.

Accounts from Algarve show a similar state of affairs in that province. The Government is sending relief to the afflicted sections.

THE BRITISH COTTON INDUSTRY.

THIRTY COTTON MILLS CLOSED AT OLDHAM.

LONDON, Monday, July 26, 1875.

Thirty cotton mills closed at Oldham to-day, the operatives having refused to accept the masters' terms in regard to wages.

THE DIRECT TRANSATLANTIC CABLE.

LONDON, Monday, July 26, 1875.

The manager of the Direct United States Cable, in a communication to *The Times*, referring to its remarks in its financial article of Thursday last in regard to the cable, says no stockholder has been denied information. He also says a small portion of the cable has been injured, probably by ice. The contractors are now engaged in cutting out and replacing the injured part.

THE REPORTED PLOT TO ASSASSINATE PRINCE FREDERICK WILLIAM.

THE STORY FABRICATED BY AN INSANE CLERK.

BERLIN, Monday, July 26, 1875.

The story published in a special dispatch from this city to *The London Standard* of the arrest at Landeck of a Count Dzembeck, his mother and chambermaid, on a charge of complication in a conspiracy to assassinate the German Crown Prince, is untrue. It was fabricated by the Clerk of the Court at Landeck, who has been arrested, and found to be insane. There is no such person as Count Dzembeck.

THE CHILIAN REPUBLIC.

THE PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN.

PANAMA, July 17.—The news from Chili is of little general interest. Vicuna Makenna and Col. Salvo are candidates for the Presidency.

A large quantity of counterfeit bank notes, made in Peru, have been detected in Valparaiso and the circulation of them prevented.

A National College of Agriculture is about to be established in Santiago.

The colliers at Lota have struck work for a rise of wages, and the coal mines of Moquegua have suspended work for want of funds.

THE REPUBLIC OF SALVADOR.

ORDER RESTORED AT SAN MIGUEL—SEVERAL ECCLESIASTICS EXPELLED.

PANAMA, July 17.—From Salvador by way of Guatemala there is news to the 4th of July, to the effect that President Gonzalez on his arrival at San Miguel had established order in that scene of Ultramontane riots and violence. It was discovered that similar outbreaks were intended all over the Republic, in the name of religion. The Provisor Rodriguez, Bishop Carcamo, and Canons Orellana and Vecchidtti have been expelled the country.

In consequence of the riots in San Miguel the City of Panama on her last voyage from Central America brought down from the port of Libertad the Bishop of Santa Tecla and seven priests and landed them at Corinto in Nicaragua, where they still remain. These priests were suddenly arrested, hurried down to the port under an escort of 100 soldiers, and put on board the steamer.

The steamer Granada, which arrived on the morning of the 16th from San Francisco, touched at three Central American ports and brought mails and dates from Guatemala to the 11th inst., Acajulta 12th, and Punta Arenas, Costa Rica, 14th. She brought no news of special interest.

THE COLOMBIAN REPUBLIC.

COURTESIES TO THE PEACE COMMISSIONERS—MOVEMENTS OF THE AMERICAN SQUADRON—THE INDIANS FRIENDLY IN DARIEN.

PANAMA, July 17.—Since the treaty of peace was signed between the Federal and State Commissioners matters on the Isthmus have been very tranquil. On the evening of the 7th inst. a grand banquet was given to Messrs. Salgar and Esquerra, the Commissioners from Bogota, at the Grand Hotel of this city. On the 9th they took their departure along with the national troops that were stationed here to embark on board of the German steamer Allemania for Savanilla. During the absence of the national troops the State militia will look to the protection of the railroad transit.

The U. S. steamer Omaha, now in the harbor, has received her relief crew from the Powhatan. The Omaha has instructions from Admiral Collins to await here further orders, and will probably remain a month or two longer. The Richmond, flagship, was at Callao on the 6th inst., and would proceed thence to Guayaquil. Admiral Collins intends visiting Quito. The Richmond would therefore be likely to make quite an extended stay at Guayaquil.

A telegram dated July 12 at St. Thomas was received here by President Miro announcing that Gen. Joaquin Blascos was landing at Dibulla with 600 men. Col. Farias was at Rio Hacha. An attack was to be made the next day. The telegram concluded with the words, "Victory certain."

Matters are improving in Darien. The Chucunaque Indians have become more friendly, and allowed india-rubber to be extracted from their forests. Large quantities of rubber are daily looked for by the merchants here. Several tons have already arrived, and an improvement in business is noticed.

THE REPUBLIC OF PERU.

CONGRESS ENGAGED ON FINANCIAL QUESTIONS—BRILLIANT REGATTA—EXTENSIVE FORGERIES.

PANAMA, July 17.—Up to the 5th of July the country was quiet. Congress was occupied in devising means to remedy the deficit of $8,500,000, and to create a revenue for public schools. Among other propositions is one to put a tax of two soles on each resident of the coast, and one sole on each inhabitant of the interior. The fate of this bill is very doubtful. The Indians, at least, prefer investing their spare money in religious festivities and liquor to spending it for schooling.

The Dreyfus question with the municipality of Lima is not yet settled. The house seems determined to resist to the last, and has public opinion in its favor.

The Hon. Richard Gibbs, the new Plenipotentiary of the United States to Peru, was received with great cordiality at Callao.

The steamer International will proceed very soon to lay the cable between Camillos and Arica, and thence to Caldera, in Chili.

A brilliant regatta took place on the 5th of July in the bay of Callao, organized by Lieut. Ackley of the United States steamer Onward, and participated in by the boats of that vessel, and of the American flag-ship Richmond, together with the cutters and gigs of the Peruvian men-of-war Union, Independencia, Huascar and Atahualipa, and the gig of the British ship Daring. The races were witnessed by a large number of enthusiastic and admiring spectators, and as was hoped, the laurels fell to the Americans, who had so gallantly striven for the entertainment of their shore friends on the occasion of the celebration of the great anniversary.

The Peruvian Government has just celebrated a contract with the Société Generale of Paris and the Anglo-Peruvian Bank, by virtue of which these houses agree to provide for the interest and sinking fund of the Peruvian foreign debt for the second six months of the current year. The Government grants the contractors the right to export guano from July 1, and to sell the same from October 31 for six months in all the markets comprised in the Dreyfus contract, except those of America, Asia and Africa. The conditions of the sale are the same as in the Dreyfus contract. The quantity of guano to be disposed of by the right conceded is 300,000 tons net; but it has been stipulated that if after the reimbursements of the sums advanced on account of the loan, the product of the sale of guano is in excess, the surplus is to be placed at the disposal of the Government as fast as the sales are effected.

Considerable excitement has been caused in Chili as well as Peru by the discovery of large amounts of counterfeit bank notes on the banking-house of Edwards & Co., Valparaiso, and of attempts made to pass them on the Lima and Valparaiso banks. The first trial was made on the branch of the National Bank of Peru at Iquique. On the 8th of June a merchant there called Herman Reichel presented himself, asking for change for 20,994 Chilian dollars in bank notes of A. Edwards & Co. of Valparaiso. The transaction was entered into with an additional 4 per cent premium, and 21,314 dollars delivered in a draft on Lima against the principal bank, at five days' sight, and to the order of Carlos Schemmel for $20,000, and the rest in notes. On the same day Reichel made another transaction with Don Miguel Briceon for 1,700 Chili dollars in the same notes, which being forwarded to the branch of the National Bank of Chili at Serena were there discovered to be false, and the bank of A. Edwards & Co. was at once advised of it. Fortunately a package of these counterfeit bills, to the amount of $20,000, was received by the house of Huth, Gruning & Co., in Valparaiso, after the discovery was made, so that none of them circulated there. Schemmel is a Tacna merchant, who got Reichel to exchange the bills for him. The latter has been arrested and held to trial.

FOREIGN NOTES.

THREE RIVERS, Canada, July 26.—The Government boom at St. Maurice River broke away this morning, and over 10,000 logs drifted into the St. Lawrence River.

QUEBEC, July 26.—Appeals by the clergy to the charity of the congregations were made yesterday in the several Roman Catholic Churches in this city on behalf of the suffering by the late inundations in France.

A PANIC AT A SUMMER HOTEL AT RYE BEACH, N. H.

RYE BEACH, N. H., July 26.—Sea View House, the largest hotel here, narrowly escaped destruction by fire last night, from the falling of an insecurely fastened chandelier. The chandelier contained 20 or more lighted naphtha lamps, and these breaking with the fall the hall was instantly a mass of flame. A great panic ensued in the house. By the prompt use of fire extinguishers, however, a serious conflagration was prevented, and but slight damage was done. The excitement among the guests continued for some hours.

AN IMPORTANT CUSTOMS DECISION AT BUFFALO.

BUFFALO, N. Y., July 26.—Capt. John T. Davidson on the 23d inst. entered a car-load of bran at Buffalo from Thorold, Ont., at $10 per ton. It was appraised by the officials at $11, and duty was demanded on the bran at that rate. Capt. Davidson appealed for a reappraisement, and the case came to trial as a test case before Special Deputy Collector A. H. Thompson to-day. A verdict was rendered for Capt. Davidson, who was completely exonerated. This decision settles a number of similar cases and decides matters of long dispute.

FOUND DEAD IN THE WOODS NEAR BALTIMORE.

BALTIMORE, July 26.—A special dispatch from Glen Rock, a station on the Northern Central Railroad, 12 miles from this city, says: The dead body of Wm. Ison, 21 years of age, formerly from Baltimore, was found in the woods near that place, yesterday morning. A Sunday-school picnic had been held there the day previous, and Mr. Ison had attended it. Death was caused by a stab in the left breast near the heart. A coroner's jury has been summoned.

DROWNED IN CROSSING A GEORGIA RIVER.

ATLANTA, Ga., July 26.—A man named Johnson, with a family consisting of a wife and five children, in a wagon, drove into the Coosawhatchie River, in Gordon County, and getting into deep water, the wagon-box floated off. All the children were drowned. The man and his wife escaped. The bodies of four of the children have been recovered.

NO DECISION YET OF THE SWIMMING MATCH.

PHILADELPHIA, July 26.—There has been no official decision in the case of the recent swimming match between Mr. Coyle and Mr. Johnson. The principals and their friends have been trying to arrange for another match, but up to the present time have been unsuccessful.

THE THOUSAND ISLANDS CAMP-MEETING.

WATERTOWN, N. Y., July 26.—A very large audience was present at the Thousand Islands Camp-Meeting yesterday. Addresses were delivered by Bishop Carman, Mrs. Humphrey, and Mrs. Wheeler. A Woman's Missionary Society was formed.

WASHINGTON.

A GOVERNMENT REPORT ON CHOLERA.

THE SPREAD OF THE DISEASE IN THE UNITED STATES IN 1873—RESULTS OF DR. M'CLELLAN'S INVESTIGATIONS—PREVENTIVE MEASURES—QUARANTINE FIRST AND CLEANLINESS NEXT.

[FROM THE REGULAR CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE.]

WASHINGTON, July 25.—The cholera epidemic which prevailed in some parts of the United States in 1873 and which nearly depopulated many towns in the Mississippi Valley caused so much alarm that Congress at its next session passed a joint resolution directing the Secretary of War to detail a medical officer of the army to visit the towns in which cholera had prevailed, to collect as far as possible all facts of importance in regard to the epidemic, and to make a detailed report to the President. For this important duty Surgeon Ely McClellan, U. S. A., was selected, and his report, completed last Winter, is now passing through the press at the Government Printing Office and will soon be ready for distribution.

Dr. McClellan has divided his work, which is probably the most exhaustive on the subject ever published in this country, into two parts—the first comprising a complete history of the epidemic in the United States in 1873, with chapters on its etiology and prevention; and the second containing a history of the travels of Asiatic cholera both in the Old and in the New World. An appendix of more than 200 pages has been added, containing a list of books and articles relating to cholera, carefully prepared by Dr. John S. Billings, Assistant Surgeon, U. S. A., which will be found of especial value to all medical men who wish to carry their investigations on the subject more into detail than Dr. McClellan's report goes.

After giving a clinical history of the epidemic of 1873, Dr. McClellan, in his chapter on its etiology, lays down seven propositions as the result of this part of his investigations, and each of them is supported by several pages of argument and illustration. These propositions are as follows:

I. That Asiatic cholera is an infectious disease resulting from an organic poison, which, gaining entrance into the alimentary canal, acts primarily upon and destroys the intestinal epithelium.

II. That the active agents in the distribution of the cholera poison are the dejections of persons suffering from the disease in any of its stages. That in these dejections there exists an organic matter, which, at a certain stage of decomposition, is capable of reproducing the disease in the human organism to which it has gained access.

III. That cholera-dejecta coming in contact with and drying upon any objects, such as articles of clothing, bedding, and furniture, will retain indefinitely their power of infection. That in this manner a sure transmissibility of the cholera infection is effected, and that a distinct outbreak of the disease may occur by such means at great distances from the seat of original infection.

IV. That the specific poison which produces the disease known as cholera originates alone in India, and that by virtue of its transmissibility through the persons of infected individuals or in the meshes of infected fabrics the disease is carried into all quarters of the world. That cholera has never yet appeared in the Western hemisphere until after its route of pestilential march has been begun in the Eastern world, and that its epidemic appearance upon the North American continent has invariably been preceded by the arrival of vessels infected with cholera-sick, or laden with emigrants and their property from infected districts.

V. That the respiratory and digestive organs are the avenues through which individual infection is accomplished; that through the atmosphere of infected localities, cholera is frequently communicated to individuals; that water may become contaminated with the specific poison of cholera from the atmosphere, from surface-washings, from neglected sewers, cess-pools, or privies, and that the use of water so infected will induce an outbreak of the disease.

VI. That the virulence of a cholera demonstration, the contagion having been introduced into a community, is influenced by the hygienic condition of the population, and not by any geological formation upon which they may reside.

VII. That one attack of cholera imparts to the individual no immunity from the disease in the future, but that the contrary seems to be established.

In his chapter on "The Prevention of Cholera as illustrated by the Cholera Epidemic of 1873," Dr. McClellan places the greatest stress on "rigorous quarantine." He says that "it has been clearly demonstrated that the City of New-York was in the year 1873 secured from four distinct importations of epidemic cholera by the 'rigorous quarantine of observation,' which, under the superintendence of Health Officer Vanderpoel, has more nearly approached perfection than any other similar institution which the United States has known." In these instances searching investigation was made into the history of each case; each patient was isolated and disinfectants were judiciously employed. But a quarantine to be effective must be equally enforced in every port of entry, otherwise, while New-York is effectually closed to the introduction of the visible disease, the poison may enter at other places and spread all over the country. The danger from infected fabrics is equally great with that from infected individuals. The goods of emigrants from infected districts, packed at home and not opened until the emigrant reaches his new home in the West, may transmit the poison and cause a distinct outbreak of the disease when it failed to make its appearance on shipboard. So, in 1873, although the visible disease was not allowed to enter New-York, infected fabrics did pass to the city and were the means of establishing points of infection from which the disease spread far in the interior of the United States. Dr. McClellan suggests the disinfection of all goods arriving from an infected district, and the establishment of a National Sanitary Bureau for the collection of trustworthy sanitary information for the use of all local boards of health.

The second great preventive of cholera is cleanliness, and, under this head, Dr. McClellan urges attention to the condition of each house and its surrounding premises; to the condition of the natural drainage of the town and to personal cleanliness. Disinfection, after the disease has appeared, is also very necessary, and care should be taken that the disinfectants used are effective—that they do not simply change the odor, but destroy the poison. Disinfection should extend not only to clothing and furniture, but to the air that is breathed and the water that is used. Flies are popularly supposed to transmit the disease, and every effort should be made to exclude them from the house when cholera prevails, and especially to prevent them from coming in contact with food or dishes.

Finally, Dr. McClellan urges especial attention to individual habits during a cholera epidemic. In the first place, he says, it is best for all persons in whose power it may be to do so, to leave at once the infected district, and he quotes Niemeyer's rules as follows:

(1.) To start soon enough.

(2.) To go as far as possible.

(3.) Not to return until the last trace of the disease has disappeared.

Great care should also be taken in the matters of dress and diet. In regard to the latter, the doctor says that excesses of all kinds should be avoided; good substantial food, well prepared, should be taken. Coffee, tea, chocolate, the various condiments and spices, and butter, milk and eggs, are not prohibited. Wine, brandy, and malt liquors, the author thinks, may not only be allowed, but, when used in moderation, are extremely useful in averting those debilitating influences which so often prevent the system from repelling the disease; but their use should be interdicted positively whenever undue stimulation results. Dr. McClellan's entire report will be found of great value, not only to medical men, but also for popular distribution.

CURRENT TOPICS AT THE CAPITAL.

A POLITICIAN WORKING TO DISPLACE MR. THATCHER.

WASHINGTON, Monday, July 26, 1875.

For some time rumors of important changes in the Patent Office have been afloat. The organization of that Bureau has been gradually becoming less and less political in its character, and the promotion of Mr. Thatcher to the Commissionership after the resignation of Gen. Leggett, apparently eliminated what little of politics at that time remained. Mr. Thatcher had worked his way up through many subordinate positions in the Patent Office, and whether or not he has any relations with the Ring of Patent Attorneys, that is so powerful in the office, his appointment seemed to be in accordance with the principles of a reformed Civil Service. But it is reported that political or other influences are too strong for Mr. Thatcher to retain his position. The most prominent candidate for his place mentioned seems to be the Hon. R. Holland Duell. Mr. Duell is in Washington seeking an appointment to some office, and is said to be backed by Senator Conkling for the place in question. Senator Conkling sometimes argues very important cases before the Commissioner of Patents.

A TREASURY DECISION AS TO A PRO FORMA INVOICE.

The following letter was sent from the Treasury Department to-day:

Collector of Customs, Boston, Mass.:

SIR: I am in receipt of your letter of the 14th inst., reporting your action in assessing the 20 per centum additional duty, authorized by Section 2,900 of the Revised Statutes, on a certain importation of paper, per the Siberia from Liverpool, made by Mr. Frank Rowell. It appears that this case is one where the goods were entered upon pro forma invoice, under the Anti-Moiety act of June 22, 1874; and that the Appraiser raised the value more than 10 per cent above that declared in the entry. While stating that such has been your general practice, you suggest a doubt whether the 20 per cent additional duty properly attaches in a case of this kind. In reply, I have to state that the fact that the goods were entered upon pro forma invoice does not, in the view of the Department, take the case out of the operation of section 2,900 of the Revised Statutes. This section states the condition under which the 20 per centum additional duty attaches as being when such appraised value shall exceed by 10 per cent or more the value so declared in the entry, although the words "so declared" seem to refer to a declaration of value made in an entry upon a certified invoice, as appears by reference to the former part of the section. The Department, for the purposes of the case, considers the *pro forma* invoice, authorized by the Anti-Moiety Act, as an equivalent for a certified invoice. In view of the premises, your action in the case in question is deemed correct and is therefore confirmed. I am very respectfully,

B. H. BRISTOW, Secretary.

THE ARGENTINE REPUBLIC AT THE CENTENNIAL.

The Argentine Government, which has accepted the invitation to contribute to the United States Centennial Exhibition, has sent an official communication to Washington to the effect that in consequence of the civil revolution which occurred in September last the Central Committee were obliged to postpone their operations until the beginning of the present year. This year special agents were sent to the provinces to collect objects for the Exhibition. These agents have performed their duty thoroughly, and the fourteen provinces of the Republic will now be represented at Philadelphia. All the products for that purpose have arrived at Buenos Ayres. The Committee has asked the provinces for duplicate samples of their products, which will be transmitted to Santiago in Chili, in order that the Argentine Republic may be represented in that city also.

CHIEF CLERK AVERY RESIGNS.

Information has been received by the Secretary of the Treasury to the effect that two indictments have been found against Chief Clerk Avery. In one he is joined singly in the issue, and the other joins him with ex-Supervisor McDonald and ex-Revenue Agent Joyce. He is indicted as a conspirator to defraud the Government of Internal Revenue dues. Mr. Avery's resignation was tendered to Secretary Bristow this afternoon, and was accepted by him.

THE RESIGNATION OF JUDGE FISHER.

Judge Fisher has tendered his resignation of the office of United States District-Attorney for this district, and it has been forwarded by the Attorney-General to the President. He will retire from the position upon the qualification of ex-Governor Wells, who has accepted the office, but who is now absent from Washington.

A DENIAL THAT SECRETARY DELANO HAS BEEN REQUESTED TO RESIGN.

[GENERAL PRESS DISPATCH.]

WASHINGTON, Monday, July 26, 1875.

Recent newspaper statements to the effect that the President had, on June 20, addressed a letter to Secretary Delano asking for his resignation, and that Mr. Delano had visited Long Branch and besought the President to retain him in the Cabinet, are without any foundation whatever. No such letter was ever written by the President, neither has Mr. Delano been to Long Branch this season.

WASHINGTON NOTES.

WASHINGTON, Monday, July 26, 1875.

A meeting of ministers and others was held here to-day for the purpose of considering the subject of inviting Messrs. Moody and Sankey, the revivalists, to visit this city and hold a series of meetings. A committee was appointed to lay the matter before the churches, and request them to appoint delegates to assemble at noon on Monday next, to extend the invitation and arrange for the erection of a suitable building for the meetings.

The President has recognized Werner Itschner as Vice Consul of Switzerland at Philadelphia.

A GOOD HARVEST PROMISED IN NEBRASKA.

OMAHA, July 26.—*The Herald* of this city will publish to-morrow the following crop reports:

Clay County—A fine harvest is promised. Wheat is of good quality, and will yield from 15 to 20 bushels per acre. Oats are good. Corn and potatoes are very fine.

Saline County—Wheat will yield 15 bushels per acre, and oats are good. Barley is badly damaged but the yield will be large. The yield of corn and potatoes is immense.

Cumming County—Everything is in first-class condition, and the harvesting is about done.

The condition of wheat in North-Western Nebraska, in the vicinity of Sioux City, is not very favorable, although the yield will average over 18 bushels. Barley is in bad condition.

Nemaha County—Small grain is only grown in a small portion of the county, and there is only half a crop of it. Barley is in bad condition. Early corn is splendid, and late promises well.

Lancaster County—There is a most bountiful yield of all kinds of grain except barley, which is not half a crop.

Johnson County—The yield of wheat averages fifteen bushels. Oats is good. Corn is fine. Barley is not half a crop.

Cass County does not report at all flatteringly, except on corn and oats, barley being especially bad.

The weather for the past ten days has been good in most localities in the state, and great efforts have been made to complete the harvest, which have been in the main successful.

A LOCAL OVERFLOW OF THE MISSISSIPPI.

MEMPHIS, Tenn., July 26.—The river is stationary this morning, and the fears of serious danger from the overflow have subsided. At Council Bend and Walnut Bend, on the Arkansas side, some 40 or 50 miles below here, some damage has been done on Dr. Peters's plantation by the caving in of some 20 acres, a disaster which will make the removal of his residence and gin-house necessary. The following plantations also suffered some slight damage: Estates of Jesse Gribers, J. M. Williamson, Ferdinand Rogers, Benjamin Dupuy, Dr. Mooney, Gentry and Ellis. The latter three, which are near Fort Penny, opposite Friar's Point, have suffered considerably from a crevasse in the Oldtown levee. Many others would have sustained serious damage but for the prompt action of the proprietors in building levees.

THE NEW-ORLEANS POLICE BLUFFED BY A BRITISH CAPTAIN.

NEW-ORLEANS, July 26.—On Saturday evening last the captain of the British steamship State of Alabama refused to surrender three of his sailors, charged with stealing a coat. The act created a flutter of excitement in police circles. The British Consul was appealed to. Meanwhile the Alabama sailed for Liverpool, with the accused sailors on board. Attorney-General Field states, that when the legal points have been examined, should the law decide adversely to the captain, he will be made a party to the crime for harboring the accused persons, and steps will be taken for his arrest on his return to this port.

A FAST FRUIT TRAIN FROM THE EAST TO OHIO.

CINCINNATI, July 26.—It is stated that owing to the failure of the fruit crop in this region, the Baltimore and Ohio and Pennsylvania Railroads will about the 15th of August put upon their roads fast fruit trains to bring the peaches and other fruit from the bountiful crops of Delaware and New-Jersey to this city.

A BURGLAR SHOT NEAR NEWBURGH, N. Y.

NEWBURGH, July 26.—Five burglars attempted to enter a residence on Cornwall Heights this morning, when they were fired upon. One of their number was wounded, but his comrades carried him off. All escaped. They are supposed to belong to the Cold Spring gang.

ACCIDENT AT A RAILROAD CROSSING.

CONCORD, N. H., July 26.—At South Royalton, Vt., this evening the down train on the Vermont Central Railroad struck a horse and carriage. The horse was instantly killed, and a man named Howard, who was driving, received injuries which will probably prove fatal.

TO BE TRIED FOR ACCIDENTALLY KILLING HIS WIFE.

PHILADELPHIA, July 26.—William H. Conn, who accidentally shot and killed his wife yesterday, was to-day committed for trial by the Coroner, although the jury decided that the shooting was accidental.

ARMY ORDER.

WASHINGTON, July 26.—The order directing Assistant-Surgeon Blair D. Taylor, U. S. A., to report to the Superintendent of the United States Military Academy at West Point has been revoked, and he has been ordered to report to the Commanding General of the Department of Dakota for assignment to duty.